

SSB 6246 - S AMD 681

By Senator Carlyle

NOT ADOPTED 02/26/2016

1 On page 235, line 25, increase the General Fund--State FY 2017
2 appropriation by \$225,000 and adjust the total appropriation
3 accordingly.

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5 On page 235, line 30, after "limitations:" insert "(1)"

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7 On page 235, after line 33, insert the following:

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9 "(2) \$225,000 of the general fund—state appropriation for

10 fiscal year 2017 is provided solely for the oversight of for-profit

11 postsecondary institutions and private vocational schools. Of the

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13 amount provided in this subsection:

14 (a) \$150,000 is for an ombuds position, to be housed in the

15 student achievement council, to serve students of for-profit degree

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17 granting institutions and private vocational schools; and

18 (b) \$75,000 is for a study, to be administered by the student

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20 achievement council, in partnership with the department of

21 licensing, that objectively analyzes and makes recommendations about

22 systemic overlaps and gaps in jurisdiction regarding for-profit

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24 degree-granting institutions and private vocational schools in the

25 state. The council may contract with a neutral third-party research

26 organization to conduct the study. The study must be conducted in

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two phases, starting with an assessment of perspectives and relevant

1 studies. A second phase, if deemed appropriate by the council, the
2 workforce training and education coordinating board, and other
3 stakeholders, may consist of facilitated discussions among agencies,
4 regulated entities, and stakeholders, to reach agreed-upon
5 recommendations.

7 (i) The study must include recommendations to improve oversight
8 and accountability of these institutions and schools, and a review of
9 whether, and how, different standards are applied to the institutions
10 and schools by different agencies. Specifically, the study must:

13 (A) Examine the data collection and reporting practices of for-
14 profit degree-granting institutions and private vocational schools
15 compared to the data collection and reporting of the community and
16 technical colleges. The study must determine if there are
17 inconsistencies and discrepancies in the practices of the for-profit
18 degree-granting institutions and private vocational schools. The study
19 must also make recommendations on the methods of collecting, analyzing,
20 and reporting data, including what measurements to use, to ensure that
21 data from for-profit degree-granting institutions and private
22 vocational schools could be accurately compared to data from the
23 community and technical colleges;

27 (B) Study the current regulations governing these institutions and
28 schools and recommend necessary changes to achieve consistent
29 regulatory oversight of the entire system;

31 (C) Recommend ways to implement a cohesive method for guiding and
32 assisting current and prospective students who have questions and
33 concerns; and

1 (D) Review whether the office of the ombuds serving students of for-
2 profit degree-granting institutions and private vocational schools
3 should remain housed in the council. The study may include
4 recommendations for improving the operation and scope of the office of
5 the ombuds.

7 (ii) The assessment phase of the study may begin July 1, 2016. The
8 council must issue a final report, including the result of any
9 facilitated agreed-upon recommendations, to the appropriate committees
10 of the legislature by December 1, 2017."

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13 EFFECT: Provides funding for the oversight of for-profit higher
education institutions in the state, including funding for an ombuds
position in the Student Achievement Council and a study to be
administered by the Council.

FISCAL IMPACT:

2015-17: \$225,000 NGF-P

Four-Year Total: \$600,000 NGF-P

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